

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this Application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

This Amendment is in response to the Notice of Allowance mailed on October 4, 2004. Claims 1-18 are cancelled and new Claims 19-38 are added by the present Amendment.

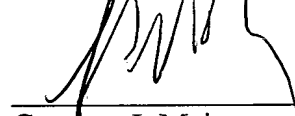
Support for the subject matter recited in the new claims is self evident from the originally filed claims, thus Applicants believe that no new matter has been introduced in this application by virtue of the new claims presently submitted. In addition, applicants have amended one paragraph in the specification in order to correct a minor informality.

In view of the allowability of Claims 1-18, Applicants believe that new Claims 19-38 are in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 19-38 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representatives at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



---

Gregory J. Maier  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 25,599  
Robert T. Pous  
Registration No. 29,099  
Attorneys of Record

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)